

B² clearing the payment information and transferring legal ownership of the item to the bidding participant. --

IN THE ABSTRACT :

Please substitute a new Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT

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B³
A method for facilitating commerce at an internet-based auction is disclosed. The method includes authorizing a first participant to post an item for auction at an internet auction site. A communication handler program executes on a host computer and receives information from the first participant about an item to be auctioned. The received information includes a designation of a category selected from a list of categories, under which the item is to be auctioned. The received information is processed into a presentation format with a database-to-presentation format formatting program. The presentation format includes an indication of the category of the item to be auctioned. The presentation formatted information is presented to a plurality of internet participants. The host computer then receives at least one bid for the auctioned item from at least one of the internet participants.

REMARKS

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.